



**girl scouts**  
of north east ohio





**Delegate Training**  
**April 4, 2023**



1

## Welcome and Introductions



**Let's Introduce Ourselves**

- Tell us your name, Service Unit and Girl Scout background
- Tell us your favorite Girl Scout memory
- And an interesting fact about yourself

2

## Why Are We Here?



**“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”**

**- Eleanor Roosevelt**

3

## Where Are We Going Today?



- **Who are the delegates?**
- **What is your role?**
  - **Welcome to both our National and Membership Delegates tonight!**
- **Issues that might surface at meetings**
- **What are next steps for Membership and National Delegates?**
- **Governance versus Operational Overview**

4

## Governance vs Operational



### Operational roles include:

- Plan and maintain program
- Responding to concerns of the staff and volunteers
- Provide learning opportunities to volunteers
- Representing Girl Scouting in the community
- Employ, direct and conduct performance reviews of the staff
- Prepare performance reports and exhibits as required by the board or committees

### Governance roles include:

- Decision Influencing - our members elect delegates to represent their views to our decision-makers. Delegates vote in the election of Board, Board Development Committee, National Delegates to GSUSA Convention, and other matters requiring a vote (i.e., Bylaw Amendments).
- Policy Making – The Board of Directors is the only Policy Making body in our Council. The GSNEO Board engages the decision-influencing system by presenting items to the members for input and feedback.

5

## What is the Role of a Membership Delegate?



- Elected by the members to serve as their voting representative in matters related to the governance of Girl Scouts of North East Ohio.
- Entrusted with the responsibility of sharing information, as received from council leadership and then utilizing her/his communication skills and an open mind to gather feedback from girl and adult member.
- Understand the issues and concerns of the girl and adult members within their county as well as appreciated council-wide issues in order to think globally for the good of the entire organization. Serves as channel of two-way communication between members and council leadership.
- Promote GSUSA/GSNEO programs, community-at-large. services and goals to the

6

## Membership Delegate Major Responsibilities



- Act as a channel for two-way communication between constituents and Council leadership.
- Understand her/his constituencies' issues and concerns as well as appreciate Council-wide issues and needs in order to think globally for the good of the entire organization.
- Understand corporate functions, including being able to review and understand any Council financial reports provided.
- Attend/participate in the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly of the council.
- Attend Special Meetings of the General Assembly as called in accordance with the GSNEO Bylaws.
- Attend/participate in Service Unit Membership Meeting(s).
- Participate in Membership Delegate virtual meetings and webinars.

7

## Membership Delegate Major Responsibilities



- Participate in training for this position.
- Elect the Officers of the Board of Directors, the Directors-at-Large of the Board of Directors, the members of the Board Development Committee, and the Delegates and Alternate Delegate(s) to the National Council of Girls Scouts of the United States of America, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the GSNEO Bylaws.
- Participate in votes to amend or revise the Articles of Incorporation and the GSNEO Bylaws as presented at meetings of the General Assembly of the Council.
- Submit proposals to the Board of Directors to improve the quality of Girl Scouting.
- Promote the organization's programs, services and goals to the community-at-large.

8

# Membership Delegate Composition



- Serve a two-year term.
- Membership Delegates are elected by Service Unit.
  - If the first Membership Delegate elected by the Service Unit is a girl, then the Service Unit shall be entitled to elect a 2<sup>nd</sup> Membership Delegate. Which can be a girl or adult.
- Membership Delegates are nominated and elected directly by the girl (over age 14) and adult members of GSNEO.
- For more information, refer to Article IV of the GSNEO By Laws.
- It is noteworthy that more than 60% of the GSNEO Membership Delegates, are GIRLS!

9

# Membership Delegate Role



10

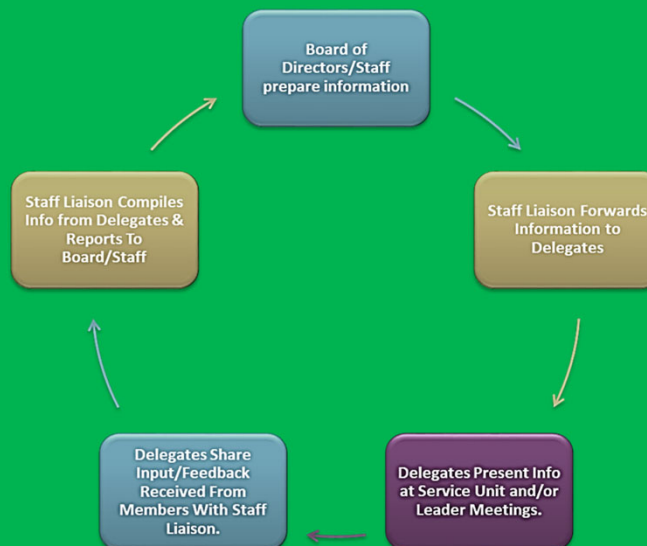
## Representing Your Service Unit



- The membership delegate is responsible for:
  - Maintaining consistent communication with the Service Unit/Service Unit Director either by phone or email.
  - Attending service unit leader meetings as needed.
- Information on what to discuss will be provided to delegates, by staff, via conference calls and emails.
- A membership delegate must contact GSNEO immediately if she/he is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.

11

## Circle of Communication



12

## Governance Communication Schedule



- A minimum of one or two virtual meetings and/or trainings annually. Others will be scheduled as needed.
- Annual Meeting of the General Assembly
- Virtual Town Hall Meeting as needed.
- Updates posted on the GSNEO website on the Governance page.



13

## Blue Book of Basic Documents



### Contents Include:

- Constitution of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
- Bylaws of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
- Policies of Girl Scouts of the United States of America
- Credentials
- Criteria and Standards for an Effective Girl Scout Council
- Congressional Charter of Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

14

## Blue Book Latest Revision: November 2022



[Click here](#) for **The Blue Book of Basic Documents** on the GSNEO.org website.

### **Suggestion:**

At a future Service Unit Meeting, share the Blue Book of Basic Documents!

It a great resource for all of us!



15

## GSNEO Bylaws



- The GSNEO Bylaws can be found on the GSNEO Governance website page.
- The last revision 4/9/22.

[Click here](#) for the electronic version of the most current version of the GSNEO Bylaws

### **The Bylaws, which is the GSNEO Governance Framework answers the following:**

- Who is involved in governance of our council
- What is their role and responsibilities
- How do they accomplish their work (chair appointment, election & voting procedures, meetings, etc.)

16

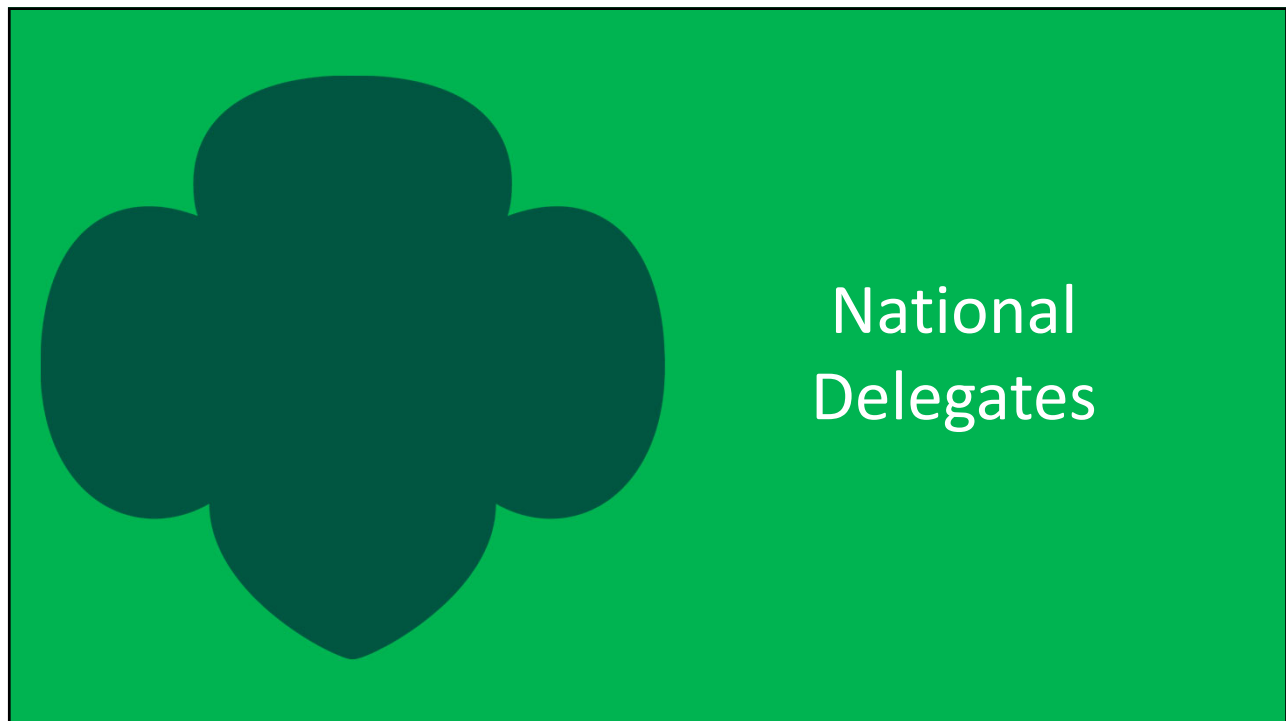


## Issues that Might be Discussed at a GSNEO Board Meeting



- Future funding for the council
- Newly adopted or modified corporate goals
- GSUSA Initiatives
- Potential jurisdiction alteration
- Strategy Alignment input

17



18

## 2022– 2024 National Delegates

- Currently, GSNEO has 13 National Delegates
- **7 of the GSNEO's 13 (54%) National Delegates are GIRLS!**



19

## National Delegate Major Responsibilities



- Participate in council and/or board meetings, and participate in council forums and focus groups, as requested.
- Obtain a broad array of the opinions of adult members and Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors from all parts of the council.
- Participate in teleconferences for voting members, sponsored by the GSUSA.
- Engage in opportunities to discuss, learn, and share ideas across the Movement.
- Be familiar with the contents of the current Blue Book of Basic Documents.
- Have a basic understanding of parliamentary procedure and Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

20

## National Delegate Major Responsibilities



**While attending the National Council Session and any additional special sessions of the National Council each National Delegate is responsible for:**

- Attending all business meetings and participating in the proceedings.
- Being fully prepared to participate in discussion and vote on all business items.
- Elect the National Board of Directors, the officers of the National Board of Directors, and the members of the National Board Development Committee.
- Determine general lines of policy of the Girl Scout Movement and program by considering and acting upon proposals directed toward the fostering and improvement of Girl Scouting, receiving and acting upon reports from the National Board of Directors, and giving guidance to the National Board upon general lines of direction of the Movement and program.

21

## National Delegate Major Responsibilities



- Participate in votes to amend or revise the Constitution and/or the Bylaws of GSUSA.
- Participate in the establishment of requirements for certificates of membership, local council charters, and all other credentials.
- Submit proposals to the National Council to improve the quality of Girl Scouting, in accordance with the submittal guidelines reflected in Article VI of the Constitution of GSUSA.
- Participate in all other action requiring a National Council membership vote.
- Wear official Girl Scout uniform during all Convention sessions.

22

## National Delegate Major Responsibilities



Upon returning from the National Council Session, each National Council voting member/delegate is prepared to:

- Report on National Council decisions and the reasons for such decisions at the council's annual meeting, to the council board of directors, and the council's constituency (if requested by council Board Chair and CEO) on the National Council decisions and the reasons for such decisions.
- Share insights on information gained at the National Council Session, if requested.
- Assist the council as it prepares to participate in the next National Council Session, if requested.
- Participate in teleconferences and other opportunities for voting members/delegates.

23



**GSNEO Annual Meeting of the  
General Assembly**

**In Person Only**

**New Location:  
Sherwood Forest Event Center  
Valley View, Ohio**

**Saturday, April 15, 2023**

**Review your Call to Meeting for  
complete details.**

24

# Annual Meeting of the General Assembly

Saturday, April 15, 2023



## Annual Meeting of the General Assembly Schedule

**New Location: Sherwood Forest Event Center,  
12900 Tinkers Creek Rd, Valley View, Ohio**

**8:30AM** – Doors open, Check-in and Continental Breakfast

**9:30 – 11AM** – Annual Meeting of the General Assembly  
(Required for all voting members of the General Assembly)

**Bring your Smartphone, Tablet or iPad for Voting!**

### Special Note:

A celebratory luncheon to honor GSNEO's 2023 Volunteer Recognition awardees will be held following the Annual Meeting at the same venue from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Please register for the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly and the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at your earliest convenience!

25

# Annual Meeting of the General Assembly

**Thank you to Outgoing Directors-at-Large of the Board of Directors:**

- Kim Togliatti-Trickett
- Heather Valentino

**Thank you to Outgoing Girl Board of Director:**

- Shelby Bennett

**Thank you to Outgoing Board Development Committee member:**

- Katie Pillar

*thank you!*



26

## Adult Directors-at-Large Slate – Full Term (Board)



Diana Bilimoria, Ph. D  
Case Western Reserve University



Tami Boulder  
CBIZ Valuation Group



Lamar Hylton, Ph. D.  
Kent State University



Marla Perez-Davis  
Retired



Sandra Rapp  
TravelCenters of America



Craig Sutton  
Eaton Corporation

27

## Adult Directors-at-Large Slate – Full Term (Board)



Vivian von Gruenigen, MD  
NEOMED



Angel Williams  
Timken Company



Chris Young, MSN, MBA, RN, NEA-BC  
Akron Children's Hospital

28

Adult Directors-at-Large Slate – New Board Seat(Board)  
One Year Term



Claudia Diaz- Singer  
The J.M. Smucker Company



Lisa McKay  
Swagelok Company

29

Adult Director-at-Large Slate – Unexpired Term (Board)  
One Year Term



Michelle Henry  
FirstEnergy Utilities

30

## Girl Directors-at-Large Slate (Board)



Imani-Chamere Ivey



Sydney Harbour

31

## Board Development Committee (Full Term)



Una Lauricia  
Pearne & Gordon LLP



Angel Williams  
Timken Company

32



